

As a result of advanced medical knowledge, expanded treatment centers, and ingenious prosthetic devices, wounded veterans and disabled workers, children with defects from birth, and young persons injured in accidents can look forward to useful, productive lives.

The ultimate enrichment of the lives of our handicapped is the opportunity to work. Since World War II, over seven million handicapped have been hired by private industry, and nearly a quarter million have been hired by the Federal Government.

While these accomplishments are impressive, the goal of a job for every disabled person who seeks one has not yet been reached.

- Thousands of blind persons are unemployed.
- Many deaf men and women are in jobs far beneath their true capabilities.
- Epileptics remain the victims of public misinformation and misconception.
- Persons with cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, or muscular dystrophy have shockingly high unemployment rates.
- A disproportionate number of unemployed handicapped men and women are trapped in the urban slums and in the rural areas of our country.

The handicapped have come a long way. But all of us—and particularly those who have been spared crippling injury—must help in providing a still wider range of job opportunities for the handicapped.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the United States of America, in accordance with the joint resolution of Congress approved August 11, 1945 (59 Stat. 530), designating the first full week of October of each year as National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week, do hereby call upon the people of our Nation to observe the week beginning October 6, 1968, for such purpose.

During that week I urge all the Governors of States, mayors of cities, and other public officials, as well as leaders of industry, educational and religious groups, labor, civic, veterans', agricultural, women's, scientific, professional, and fraternal organizations, and all other interested organizations and individuals, including the handicapped themselves, to participate in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fourth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-third.



Proclamation 3872

LEIF ERIKSON DAY, 1968

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

About one thousand years ago Leif Erikson and his band of Vikings sailed across the North Atlantic and landed on the shores of North America. These intrepid Norse seafarers had only crude navigational instruments, but they had an abundance of courage, energy, and perseverance.

These qualities continue to inspire millions of Americans who trace their ancestry to the countries of the Vikings.

At a time when man has embarked on new voyages of discovery in space and under the sea, it is especially appropriate that we recognize the epic story of the voyages of this great Norse hero.

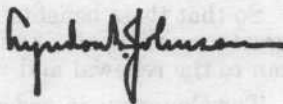
I am honored to comply with the request of the Congress of the United States, in a joint resolution approved September 2, 1964 (78 Stat. 849), that the President proclaim October 9 in each year as Leif Erikson Day.

36 USC 169c.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Wednesday, October 9, 1968, as Leif Erikson Day; and I direct the appropriate Government officials to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on that day.

I also invite the people of the United States to honor the memory of Leif Erikson on that day by holding appropriate exercises and ceremonies in schools and churches, or other suitable places.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-seventh day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-third.



Proclamation 3873

COLUMBUS DAY, 1968

By the President of the United States of America

September 30, 1968

A Proclamation

On October 12, we honor the memory of the great Italian navigator, Christopher Columbus, who sailed forth on uncharted seas in a voyage that was to change the history of the world.

The breadth of his imagination, the force of his determination, and the magnitude of his achievement have not dimmed with the passing of time.

We are all spiritual heirs of Christopher Columbus. His unbounded faith and courage are a part of the patrimony of every American.

In recognition of our debt to Columbus the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), requested the President to proclaim October 12 of each year as Columbus Day for the observance of the anniversary of the discovery of America.

36 USC 146.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Saturday, October 12, 1968, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.